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THE BEE PUBLISHING CO., Props. E. ROSEWATER, Editor.

"By hook or by crook"--principally by Crook.

SUNSET COX still declares that he is reasonably certain of the speakership. That is "Why we laugh."

With high license, Chicago's revenue from her saloons will foot up about \$1,500,000 a year.

BOB INGERSOLL is happy, and Steve Dorsey once more holds up his head and thinks of new small contracts. The star route jury has returned a verdict of "not guilty."

EVEN an Arkansas legislator has an idea of the eternal fitness of some things. A man named Gabbill asked the last session to change his name, and it was done without a dissenting voice.

NEW JERSEY is warming up to a gubernatorial campaign. The leading local issue will be in regard to the railroad rule, and temperance questions will complicate things somewhat.

SECRETARY CHANDLER was in high spirits last week because the monitor "Amphitrite" was launched without sinking. If the hull could have been sunk before it was fitted up with machinery the government would have saved over a million of dollars which has been wasted.

THE Philadelphia Committee of One Hundred, the citizens' committee which has so successfully rid Philadelphia of the worst ring of political plunderers that ever despoiled a city, is the subject of a short and pointed paper, by E. V. Smalley, in the July Century.

FROM Ohio, as well as from elsewhere, come the queries, "Who is Judge Foster, anyhow?" The nomination has aroused little enthusiasm at home, and none at all abroad, while there is every indication that the number of stay-at-home republicans on election day will be larger than usual.

THERE will be little sympathy expressed over the killing of Duke, the Ulontown murderer, by the son of the man whom he shot down in cold blood last spring. Duke ought to have died by the hand of the law. The verdict of a packed jury, however, is sometimes set aside in a way that might have been anticipated.

STAR ROUTE MIXER still prosecutes his claim for the Niobrara stage route, which Senator Van Wyck disputes. It cannot be denied that the senator is making out a strong case. We want all the honest mail facilities that we can get in the north country, but Nebraska is not handicapped after any more star route scandals.

THE convention to elect delegates to the national anti-monopoly conference meets at Lincoln on the 20th. It is highly important that the meeting shall be marked by earnestness and harmony. The delegates sent to Chicago ought to be picked from the best men in the anti-monopoly ranks. There are a number who would do credit to Nebraska, and who can be depended upon to represent strongly and clearly the issues for which the producers of this state have been battling.

Capt. Stikel is one and Secretary Burrows is another. We do not know that either of these gentlemen will accept an election. Still, in selecting them the convention would make no mistake.

THE statistics of immigration to the United States show a falling off of 34,850 at the port of New York for the first four months of 1883 as compared with the corresponding period of last year. It is noted, however, that the class of immigrants is an improvement upon former years. They are generally robust young people and unmarried, while the German immigrants are mostly farmers, many of whom bring money enough to begin business in a small way. The number of Italian immigrants is unprecedentedly large, but they usually begin railroad digging, rag-picking or organ-grinding at once, and thus become self-supporting members of a community.

THE BARB WIRE MONOPOLY.

The decision of Judge Treat in the United States circuit court at St. Louis, which was rendered last week, is a serious blow to the barbed wire monopoly. Two years ago Judge Blodgett, of the federal circuit court, in Chicago, affirmed the "broad claim" of the patents held by Washburn & Moens, of Worcester, Mass., for barbed fence wire. The decision assured royalties to the amount of \$2,000,000 annually, some say \$4,000,000. Judge Treat's opinion declares the claims under these patents invalid. This makes inevitable the appeal to the supreme court at Washington which the monopoly has been so long and so skillfully fighting. The practical result will probably be the overthrow of the patents and a reduction in the cost of barbed wire, of which 80,000 tons, or 500,000 miles, are used yearly, from ten cents to five or six cents a pound or less. There is scarcely a farmer east or west, the cost of whose fencing will not be decreased by the probable result of Judge Treat's decision, while the expense of improving western ranches will be cut down nearly one-half.

Ordinarily, in a patent case involving millions, an appeal from an adverse decision follows as a matter of course; but Washburn & Moens, the owners of the vital Hunt & Glidden patents on which their monopoly rests, have found it wiser, when a lower court had once given them a legal title, to open the doors and take in every rival by offering a share in profits large enough to go around among the dozen firms parties to the Chicago suits. An agreement was then entered into under which these contestants agreed to sell the barbed wire at a special rate, dividing the royalties upon the basis of their manufacture, in which the enormous establishment of Washburn & Moens enjoyed superior advantages. One of these firms, at a later stage in the negotiations, demanded and obtained an increased share, a proceeding which led to an intricate law-suit for a new division of profits, brought by another firm in the monopoly. By the skill of their counsel and their own enterprise and efficiency, the great monopoly has held its own against farmers' associations all over the west, which have successively succumbed, the only two surviving being one in Iowa and a knot of manufacturers in St. Louis, who have won the present case.

Judge Blodgett's decision, upon which the monopoly rests, turned upon two points; first, that barbed wire for fencing was a patentable invention and not a mere "device," and, second, that the release of the original patent to Glidden was valid in its enlargement of the claim made when the patent was first granted. It does not appear that Judge Treat has passed upon the first point, nor that he has dealt with the claim that barbed wire had been in use prior to the alleged discovery. Judge Treat has refused to forbid the St. Louis defendants from continuing to make and sell barbed wire fencing, upon the ground that the release invalidated the original patent by extending it outside the limit of the first specifications. Since Judge Blodgett rendered his decision two years ago, the supreme court has used decided language on the subject of releases, and greatly restricted the loose doctrine accepted before. In a recent decision on turbine water wheels, and handed down last winter on a new milling process, the Washington court ruled that the re-issue of a patent must be limited to the earlier specifications. The application of this principle has probably guided Judge Treat in deciding against a monopoly whose profits have been equalled by the spoils of few patents.

SECRETARY HINE, of the Connecticut state board of education, has been telling some unvarnished truths to the people of that part of New England, where he is engaged in educational work. He declares that the administration of education in some parts of Connecticut has suffered greatly from neglect, that no less than two hundred country school houses are "poor, battered, rotten and untidy," that fifty-three schools have an average of less than three scholars, and 352 have less than ten, and that "there is actually a demand for poor teachers the pay not being sufficient to secure capable instructors." Mr. Hine, who will be remembered as the principal of our high school, no doubt contrasts the interest taken in educational matters in Connecticut with that which he found in Nebraska. We secured the seeds of our common school system from New England, but the plant has thriven best in western soil. It is to that part of the country that lies west of the Allegheny mountains that we must look for the best common schools, the most thoroughly equipped system of school administration and the largest popular interest in matters relating to free education. The East is now supplied with Western superintendents; Western instructions take the lead in the discussion of educational problems in the press and the convention, and Western school methods are transplanted to New England to take root, as the Quincy

and the Parker systems in Puritan soil.

Mr. Hine, who spent nearly three years with us here in Omaha, is quick to see the difference between Nebraska's enthusiasm in educational matters and the apathy into which Connecticut has permitted herself to drift. Hence his eye opener.

THE STAR ROUTE TRIAL.

The verdict of acquittal in the star route cases will surprise no one. Steve Dorsey expected it from the start. Bob Ingersoll boasted of its anticipated arrival, and the entire gang of Brady's papers at the capital have had their editorial comments on the result ready for nearly twelve months. The public which ordinarily finds no difficulty in seeing through a millstone with a hole in it, would have been most agreeably disappointed had the clerk of the court been called upon to record a verdict of guilty. But they have had no reason to anticipate any such conclusion to the case.

All the circumstances have combined to favor the escape from justice of the gang of official thieves who robbed the government through corrupt manipulation of the star routes. The atmosphere of Washington was tainted for years with their lavish bribes. A chain of subsidized organs in the national capital joined in manufacturing sympathy for the accused. The counsel for the defense were the ablest that could be procured, while the voluminous testimony brought in by the prosecution and the endless speeches and arguments of the government lawyers, who were paid by the day, needlessly protracted the trial, disgusted the jury and prejudiced them against the prosecution and its attorneys.

But while the thieves escape the punishment of the law through a flagrant miscarriage of justice, the verdict of public opinion will not be reversed. No one who has read the testimony upon which the indictments were framed, or who has watched the course of the defense since the trial began more than a year ago, will doubt that Dorsey, Brady, Milner, Vallie & Co. richly deserved the penitentiary. Nor will any one who has watched the rambling methods of the prosecution feel inclined to question the statement made last week by a prominent government official, that under Brewster and Bliss' conduct of the case a verdict of guilty would have forced even Bob Ingersoll to believe in miracles.

WHILE the democracy are hunting around for a candidate for 1884, the claims of Abram S. Hewitt ought not to be overlooked. Mr. Hewitt has a large bar. That is a consideration which at once commands him as the heir to Mr. Tilden's shoes. He is also a politician of some sagacity, a congressman of varied experience and a large employer of labor. There will be worse men spoken of than Abe Hewitt before the Bourbon convention meets next summer.

THE New York Sun has an article on "Smuggling through the Mail." The Sun must have been getting pointers from Casper E. Yost.

THE New York correspondent of the Philadelphia Record tells a good story about Col. Tompkins, for a time depot quartermaster in the former city during the war. He had served for years on the frontier, and had there acquired a blunt, brusque manner. He had one peculiar notion, in effect that women had no business with the army, either as nurses or negro mistresses or victors. Nurses might be allowed, but there was absolutely no excuse for the others. The correspondent was once in his office when the wife of Brig. Gen. Meallie swept in, gorgeous in silks and satins and diamonds and lace: "Col. Tompkins," she said in a queenly way, "I want a permit to go to such and such a place in South Carolina, where my husband is stationed, on the troopship sailing to-morrow." "Can't have it," growled Col. Tompkins, scratching away at his gilded pipe. "Why not?" "I would like to know," asked the magnificent Mrs. Meallie. "Ship's full," responded Old Tompkins; "full of men." "But I must go," said Madame; "besides, here is my pass from the Secretary of War." "Can't help it," said the Colonel; "you can't go; besides, that's no place for women." "Perhaps you don't know who I am?" said Mrs. Meallie, bridling up with indignation. "No, I don't, and I don't want to," said the frank quartermaster. "Well," said Madame, almost beside herself with rage, "I am Mrs. Brig. Gen. Meallie." "I don't care if you're Mrs. Brigadier Angel Gabriel," snapped Old Tompkins; "you can't go." And she didn't.

Mailroad Storm in California. Chicago Tribune.

In a recent interview in New York Leland Stanford, one of the Central Pacific syndicate, said that the communistic spirit had died out of California with the recovery from the panic that followed the collapse of the great bonanza. By communistic spirit that gentleman means the spirit which has attempted to regulate the railroads and the other anti-social combinations of capital in that state. By the same reasoning he regards as communistic the spirit which refuses to transfer to him and his associates the land grant of the Texas Pacific. The latest news from California indicates an impending revival of this communistic spirit.

A peculiar cyclone is blowing in the air of California. A great mass meeting was held last (Saturday) night at San Jose by the people of Santa Clara county, who have at last risen in popular indignation against the "outrageous exactions" of the Central and Southern Pacific railroads. The call for the meeting was signed by hundreds of the leading men, by ex-judges, men of the legislature, by republicans and democrats alike. This is understood to be the first of a series of uprisings that will extend all through the state. They will be specially aimed at procuring the impeachment of the railroad commissioners, who have proved themselves the tools of the Huntington and Crocker crowd. These demonstrations were suggested by the governor of the state, who says: "The anti-monopoly issue is the issue of the age." It is as good a proof as any of the tightness of the grip which the iron corner has on California that the railroad commission, which was thought to be one of the chief achievements of the new constitution, should have broken down so completely in practice. In other states the institution has worked admirably. It has done a great deal of good in Illinois. Its operation in Massachusetts, in England, and in various other states, has been so satisfactory that there are now railroad commissioners in twenty-five states in this country. In California alone has the commission proved an entire and calamitous failure. This is simply and solely because there is nowhere else in the United States a combination of capitalists of the same pitiless greed and iron-handed despotism as those who control the railroads of that state. No railroad man has ever asserted the defiant doctrine that the railroad owns the public no duties and is subject to no public control as Leland Stanford, of California, has done. No man in the United States with possibly the exception of the Standard Oil company, have used public franchises with so shameless a disregard of public responsibilities as the Central Pacific syndicate. There has not been developed elsewhere in the United States so striking an instance of what stood forth so clearly in France at the end of the last century--the anti-social tendencies of privilege, whether that privilege be priestly, political or monetary. The telegraph Saturday morning announced that the railroad commissioners of California had proposed a reduction of 23 per cent in the freight and passenger rates. This is an attempt to avert the storm of just wrath which is rising in California. It is to be hoped that it comes too late to arrest the proceedings which shall disgrace those who have betrayed their trust and shall put a more efficient check on the Central Pacific syndicate, which is one of the most dangerous aggregations of capital which has arisen in the United States.

PERSONALITIES.

Paris boasts of at least two genuine original dandies. One is M. Barbey d'Aurevilly, and the other is the Comte de M., who has carried the art of dress so far that whenever he designs to make a visit he composes for the occasion a special toilet, which, from the neck to the button-hole, shall be in harmony with the temperament of the person whom he visits. It is the Comte de M. who has a cupboard full of socks of all shades, arranged by tones and half-tones, a complete gamut of color, a color, a clavier de chaussettes so perfect that M. Massenet will undertake any day to play a symphony of Chopin upon it.

The king of Portugal is plain, short and thick-set, with a passion for Shakespeare and the classics and a contempt for politicians. When asked to become king of Spain, he said: "No, I cannot afford to pay double premiums in insuring my life."

Sir Moses Montefiore's hundredth birthday, which occurs on the 21st of October, is to be celebrated, among other ways, by opening the "Montefiore Rabbinical College," at Rome.

The difference between old Esau and Governor Butler is, that one sold his birthright for a mess of pottage and the other sells the legislature with a pot of mess-pottage.

General Longstreet's son failed to pass the examination at the Naval Academy and he has been given a clerkship in the interior department.

Defaulter Polk, of Tennessee, is said to be likely to get \$150,000 per annum from the Mexican mines, into which he poured the state's money.

Erasmus, the inventor of the monitor, still works twelve hours a day, though he is eighty years old. In summer he bathes with crushed ice.

General Hens always carries an umbrella and a canteen of water when the weather department predicts clear and dry weather.

General Li Hung Chang nervously bites the end of his cigar when he is giving orders to the grand army of the tea-chest region.

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The adjutant-general of Kansas is Thomas Moonlight. He is very popular among the ladies.

T. B. Aldrich, the poet, dresses like a "dude" and waxes his mustache.

M. de Lesseps would like to cut a canal through the Atlantic ocean.

Cap. Webb, the swimmer, is broken down in health and pocket.

Shah Nasr-ud-Din, the filthy ruler of Persia, is a raving maniac.

Uncle Rufus H. H. owns a yacht, but sailing makes him seasick.

The prince of Wales is an expert boxer and is fond of the gloves.

Joe Chandler Harris, Uncle Remus, has red hair and blue eyes.

Senator Pendleton is extremely fond of spaghetti.

Henry Ward Beecher always wears soft felt hats.

"Plunger" Walton's luck has deserted him.

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Senator Stewart's congressional apportionment bill for Pennsylvania is denounced by a republican state newspaper as a democratic measure, and they are unable to see how any independent senator who cares for party harmony will lend himself to such a scheme.

Senator Bayard has made a fresh bid for the presidency in the shape of a "private" letter to the editor of a newspaper, who promptly published it, as the writer would have expected. In this communication of a half column or more, Senator Bayard contrives to say nothing in particular with tolerable ability. Considering the fact that the property will not be knocked down for a year and a half yet, bids for the presidency at this time are a trifle premature.--Chicago Times.

Ex-Congressman J. R. Chalmers, of Mississippi, because an independent republican-anti-bourbon political leader soon after he was compelled to surrender his seat to the forty-seventh congress to John B. Lynch, his republican opponent. Gen. Chalmers announces his divorce from the bourbons with a flourish of trumpets. What Mabone was in Virginia Chalmers aspired to be in Mississippi, and he declared his intention of forming a liberal party in that state which would sweep the democrats from place and power. A gentleman who has recently arrived here from Mississippi, and who is one of the best informed republican politicians in the state, says that General Chalmers is not a success as a apostle of liberalism. "Chalmers has been seen the upper and under stones," said this gentleman, "and he is being ground to powder as fast as the stones can move."

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